



# MILPITAS MATTERS

NOVEMBER 30  
2023

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THE OFFICIAL BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS

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## MESSAGE FROM CITY MANAGER NED THOMAS

Veterans Day is observed in the United States on November 11th. This day commemorates Armistice Day, which marked the end of World War I on November 11, 1918, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. President Dwight Eisenhower officially changed the name of this holiday to Veterans Day in 1954. It is a day to express gratitude to veterans and their families for their sacrifices in protecting our freedom, both on the battlefield and at home. According to Federal Regulations, a veteran is defined as "a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable."

In Milpitas, we have a Veterans Commission dedicated to serving veterans from every branch of the United States Armed Forces. During Milpitas' Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11, Diego Hammett, a retired First Sergeant who served in the US Army for 26 years, was recognized esteemed Veteran of the Year.

Hammett is an active member of the Milpitas community, volunteering at various organizations and selflessly offering aid to the unhoused community. Keynote speaker and Planning Commissioner Bill Chuan, who served as a US Army Crewman, shared his experiences in Fort Benning, Georgia, and emphasized the camaraderie he shared with his unit. At the event, the City received a commendation from Santa Clara County Supervisor Otto Lee, and Assemblymember Alex Lee honored Hammett for his remarkable achievement.

As a City, we remain committed to supporting our veterans and ensuring they have access to the resources and assistance they deserve. Whether through veteran support programs, employment opportunities, or providing a supportive community network, we stand ready to assist those who have served. *Thank you to all the veterans and their families for their service, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to protecting our freedoms.*

# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## MILPITAS SMART'S EXTENDED HOURS & FREE HOLIDAY RIDES

In the spirit of the holiday season, Milpitas residents have something extra to celebrate with SMART's fantastic news of extended service hours and complimentary rides. Weekdays will now see service from 6 am to 9 pm, providing a more extensive window for commuters to get around town conveniently. Additionally, SMART rides are now available on Saturdays, operating from 7 am to 9 pm, ensuring residents have time to reach their destinations comfortably.

SMART's Spectacular Holiday Deal: Free Rides until January 6, 2024! The City is offering an incredible gift this holiday season - free rides! Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to experience the convenience and accessibility of SMART.

## CITY OF MILPITAS ADOPTS AUTOMATED PERMITTING TOOL TO LOWER THE COST OF INSTALLING SOLAR

The City of Milpitas launched SolarAPP+, an automated application for permitting new residential rooftop solar and storage systems. SolarAPP+ will lower costs and expedite solar installations, encouraging property owners to invest in generating renewable and sustainable energy. SolarAPP+ helps governments and providers cut rooftop solar permitting costs. Developed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) with the support of the U.S. Department of Energy, SolarAPP+ provides a web-based portal that streamlines and automates permit reviews. The launch of SolarAPP+ is a win for the thousands of Milpitas residents who have considered getting rooftop solar but have been concerned about permit and plan review fees. As an added bonus, SolarAPP+ will help Milpitas address climate change adaptation and resiliency needs. For more information please see the SolarAPP+ page [here](#).

## MILPITAS PD RECEIVES \$110K GRANT FROM THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

The Milpitas Police Department received a \$110,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to conduct public awareness and special traffic enforcement campaigns through September 2024. The OTS traffic safety program is intended to educate the public, promote safe driving habits, and deter drivers from violating traffic laws or engaging in other unsafe behaviors that lead to crashes, injuries, and fatalities.

The Milpitas Police Department can use the OTS grant funds to conduct:

- DUI checkpoints and saturation patrols to take suspected alcohol/drug-impaired drivers – and those unlicensed or with a revoked/suspended license – off the road.
- Traffic safety education presentations for bicycle/pedestrian safety, distracted, impaired, and teen driving.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Learn more: <https://milpitas.info/49JgpRr>





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## DAGUPAN AND MILPITAS RENEW SISTER CITY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

A delegation from the Philippines visited Milpitas early this week, making the trip to celebrate a very special occasion. The group from Dagupan City was in town to officially mark the continuation of their sister city relationship with Milpitas. On November 27, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signing ceremony marked a significant milestone in the enduring relationship between the Milpitas and Dagupan communities. The agreement solidified both cities' commitment to collaboration and cultural exchange. The event was attended by members of the Milpitas City Council, City staff, and special guests. Visiting dignitaries included Dagupan City Mayor Belen Fernandez, City Councilmembers Michael Fernandez, Dennis Canto, and Jeslito Seen, several members of Dagupan City's executive team, student council leaders as well as local representatives from the Dagupan City Association of Northern California.



## REMEMBER TO SORT YOUR GARBAGE PROPERLY!

In 2022, Milpitas diverted over 7,000 tons of organic material from the landfill! To continue to help fight climate change, let's continue to sort properly. Remember that only food and food-soiled paper should go into the food scraps bin and materials like grass, branches, leaves and weeds should go into the yard trimmings bin. When we properly sort, this material can be recycled and either turned into animal feed, nutrient rich compost or energy that helps powers our homes and the community. For more information on SB 1383, please visit the [City of Milpitas webpage on SB 1383](#).



## DID YOU KNOW ABOUT STREET SWEEPERS?

Street sweepers are designed to pick up smaller debris, not large piles of leaves. If the vehicle comes into contact with a pile of leaves, it will spread the leaves all over the street. Instead of piling leaves in the street, place large amounts of leaves in your yard trimmings cart. Another way to help is to move your car off the street between 7am-5pm on the street sweeper day so the street sweeper can collect all the leaves on the side of the road without missing the leaves that would be under your car. To learn more about the street sweeper schedule, view the [Milpitas Sanitation street sweeping map](#).



## DONATE TO THE MILPITAS FIREFIGHTERS ANNUAL TOY DRIVE!

We are happy to announce that the 2023 Local 1699 Milpitas Firefighters Annual Toy Program is now open for registration! To find more information, donate and/or register for the Toy Program please visit - <https://milpitastoydrive.org>. There is nothing better than seeing a child's face light up with a smile as they open gifts on Christmas morning. It is our mission this holiday season to make sure every child in our community experiences this joy.



## CALLING ALL TEENS LOOKING TO BECOME A CIVIC EMPLOYEE!

Recreation Services Staff will be offering offer a Leadership Academy for Milpitas Teens over the Milpitas public school Spring Break, April 15-19. This five-day program will give high school students an insider's look at all our City Departments, services, and programs, preparing them to serve as student Commissioners, volunteers, or future civic employees. Students will be eligible to earn volunteer service credits for participating and will receive a certificate at a closing event on April 19th. Enrollment is limited to teens living in Milpitas. Information on the Academy will be released in the department's Spring Activity Guide which is made available to the public in early December.





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## VOCAL DIRECTOR NEEDED FOR NEXT SHOWING!

Fresh off a great production of Matilda Jr., Milpitas Community Theatre is seeking a vocal director for our next show, Mean Girls High School Edition. Our March 2024 production will be directed by Salim Razawi and choreographed by Meghan Horowitz. Auditions are December 10-11. Rehearsals start January 16. Pay range for vocal directors is \$1500-\$2200 DOE.

We'd love to hear from you! Submit your resume online:  
<https://forms.milpitas.gov/forms/view.php?id=172451>

## BRIGHTEN UP DIXON LANDING PARK!

Help us brighten up Dixon Landing Park with some new public art! The City of Milpitas is accepting applications from qualified muralists who would like to be considered for commission to paint these poles and those of the snack shack with a wildflower-themed design next summer. We are also accepting applications from residents who would like to help review and select the artist. Find out more here: <https://www.milpitas.gov/1165/Public-Art>

## JOIN US IN COOKIES WITH SANTA!

The Milk and Cookies with Santa event is the perfect way to kick off the holiday season with your loved ones. Not only will you get to take a memorable photo with Santa, but you'll also have the opportunity to get creative by decorating cookies and making holiday crafts. This family-friendly event will surely bring plenty of cheer and joy to all who attend. Don't miss out on this special occasion - tickets are still available for purchase. Mark your calendars for Friday, December 1 and get ready to spread some holiday magic!

Find more information here: <https://milpitas.info/3sQAch9>

## PARTICIPATE IN THE MILPITAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Ring in the holidays at the City's annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Enjoy performances by MHS Puso, Kawailehua Hula Ohana, Vietcoustic, and more! Get your photo with Santa and enjoy the sounds of the Milpitas Community Concert Band in the rotunda. The Youth Advisory Commission is hosting a Coat Drive, so bring your warm coats to the Barbara Lee Senior Center. Arrive hungry because food trucks will be on-site. Roast marshmallows with your family at the s'mores pit area. S'mores kits will be available for purchase. We encourage the community to come in their cultural holiday attire and be a part of this year's festive celebration! Learn more: <https://milpitas.info/3SOAK1F>

## APPLY TO JOIN THE MEASURE F OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE!

The City of Milpitas is looking for members to join the Measure F Oversight Committee!

Members should have the following areas of expertise and/or are advocates for

- Business and/or residential community
- Municipal or governmental services operations
- Municipal finance, taxation, budgeting, and/or accounting

For more information, visit:

<https://www.milpitas.gov/1158/Commission-Vacancies-Applications>





# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## DEVELOPMENT PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

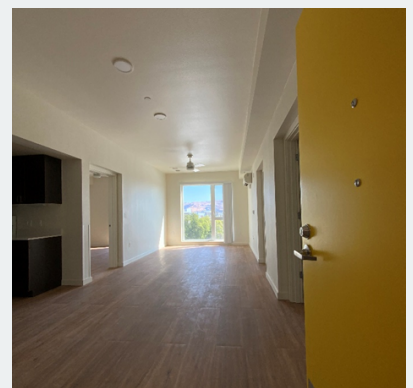
**308 Sango Court Apartments, 308 Sango Ct.**, a 5-story over 1-level parking 85-unit affordable housing development by The Pacific Companies.

Podium deck preparation by all trades to get ready for concrete placement. Rebar, post tension cables, electrical, plumbing & mechanical supports and sleeves are some of the imbedded products needed to be installed before concrete placement can take place. New water main for the neighborhood behind 308 Sango Ct. is near completion. See below photos.



**Sango Court Apartments, 355 Sango Ct.**, (2) 4-story residential buildings of wood modular construction above first floor concrete podiums with a steel bridge connecting the two buildings providing 102 affordable housing units by Resources for Community Development.

The Development has passed final Inspection and has been granted full Certificate of Occupancy. See below exterior and interior photos.



**BD Life sciences, 135 N McCarthy & 155 N McCarthy Blvd**, a biotechnology company.

Please see the below picture showing installation of mechanical equipment on the roof by using giant crane as part of the tenant improvement work in progress.



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**Sunnyhills Apartments, 1730 Sunnyhills Dr.**, an in-fill project that consists of 6 apartment buildings with a total of 44 units, a leasing office, and carport structures.

Work on the bio-retention areas has begun. Photo shows 1st layer of base rock covering the storm drain piping underneath. Next will be soil fill and vegetation/mulch on top. See photo below.



**Lumen Townhomes, 2001 Tarob Ct.**, A two building 32-unit townhome-style condominium residential development by KB Homes.

Grading work is almost complete and testing phase of the underground utilities will begin before construction of the structures start. See photo below.



**Fabri-Tech, located at 576 Sycamore Dr.**

To allow an earlier start of operation, a temporary occupancy permit for Fabri-Tech, an electronics company was issued.



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## BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

*Building permits were issued to the following:*

**AT&T**, for installation of (n) telecommunication facility on the VTA building, located at 1735 S Milpitas Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$350,000.

**Cerano Apartments**, for replacement of 253 water heaters for all the units located at 501 Murphy Ranch Rd at an estimated construction cost of \$214,200.

**Headway Technologies**, designer and manufacturer of recording heads for high performance hard disk drives, for tenant improvement at their existing facility located at 497 S Hillview Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$750,000.

**Prologis Inc.**, a real estate investment trust company, for tenant improvement at their new facility located at 680 N McCarthy Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$1.65M.

**Spinnaker Pointe Apts.**, for re-roofing at their existing apartment located at 231 Dixon Landing Rd. at an estimated construction cost of \$202,660.

**Ulferts Center**, for installation of EV charging stations at 640 Barber Ln at an estimated construction cost of \$400,000.

*Building permit applications were submitted by the following:*

**KLA Plus**, semiconductor manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at their existing facility located at 5 Technology Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$10M.

**KLA Plus**, semiconductor manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at their new facility located at 601 McCarthy Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$3.6M.

**Stratford School**, for demolition for future tenant improvement at their new school located at 1323 Great Mall Dr at an estimated construction cost of \$750,000.

**Trace 3**, an elite technology consultancy company located at 598 Gibraltar Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$4.1M.

*The following businesses have received final inspection and are now open for operation:*

**Action Urgent Care Inc.**, an urgent care located at 1487 Landess Ave.

**Arty Coffee**, a kiosk at the Great Mall.

**Goat Athletics Db a Pro Image Sports**, a new retail located at Great Mall.

**GR Chinese Tutoring Center**, a new tutoring center located at 1350 S Park Victoria Dr.

**Jun Bistro Inc.**, a new restaurant located at 290 Barber Ct.

**Magtarget LLC**, a resale business for electronics relocating from Sunnyvale to 370 Fairview Way.

**N1 Life**, a General office for bio-pharma research company relocating from San Jose to 446 S Hillview Dr.

**Ume Tea**, a café at the Great Mall.

**Pandora Jewelry**, a new jewelry store located at Great Mall.

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## WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US



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